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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Carine Van Hille et al.
Title: SAMPLE-TAKING DEVICE
Docket No.: 34110

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows prior to examination thereof.

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Michael W. Garvey
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)
12-06-2001
Date
Signature of Attorney

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-9 without prejudice

Please add claims 10-18 as follows:

1 10. Sample-taking device, comprising a body (1) inside which there is a rotating plug (4)
2 through which two drillings (24, 25) have been made, separated by an angle equal to an angle separating
3 two orifices (22, 23) penetrating the body (1) and leading into a sample intake pipe and discharge pipe,
4 the body also being perforated by a sample-taking orifice (18) provided with a calibrated valve (19)
5 located between the bottom of a cylindrical chamber (12) contained in the body and partially delimited
6 by the rotating plug (4), the device also comprising a piston (11) free to move in the rotating plug (4)
7 towards and away from the bottom and delimiting the chamber on the side opposite the bottom.

1 11. Sample-taking device according to claim 10, characterized in that the bottom of the chamber
2 (12) is delimited by a base (10) of the rotating plug (4), the sampling orifice (18) is located on a
3 circumference of the body common to the inlet and outlet orifices, and is separated from one of the inlet
4 and outlet orifices (22, 23) by the angle between the drillings (24, 25) in the rotating plug.

1 12. Sample-taking device according to either of claim 10, characterized in that an opening is
2 formed in the body (1) opposite the bottom of the chamber, the rotating plug (4) projects from the body
3 at the said opening, and in that the piston is coupled to a manoeuvring device (15) fitted with a portion
4 engaged by threading on the rotating plug.

1 13. Sample-taking device according to claim 12, characterized in that the said portion of the
2 manoeuvring device is a skirt (32) covering the rotating plug (4) and in that the graduations (33) are
3 marked on the rotating plug.

1 14. Sample-taking device according to claim 10, characterised in that the rotating plug (4) is
2 separated from the body (1) by a sealing ring (3).

1 15. Sample-taking device according to claim 14, characterised in that the sealing ring (3) and
2 the body (1) bear on conical surfaces (2), in that the rotating plug (4) is connected to the body (1) through
3 a system for adjusting the position of the rotating plug (4) along a rotation spindle of the rotating plug
4 (4), and in that the sealing ring is in contact with the rotating plug, in the direction of the opening of the
5 conical surfaces.

1 16. Sample-taking device according to claim 15, characterised in that the layout of the position
2 setting of the rotating plug (4) is composed of a flange (5) formed on the rotating plug (4) and provided
3 with adjustment screws (7) bearing on the body (1).

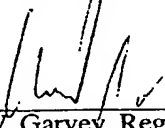
1 17. Sample-taking device according to claim 16, characterised in that the flange (5) is provided
2 with a stop pin (34) preventing rotation of the rotating plug (4) and the body (1) is provided with holes
3 (37) formed on a circular trajectory of the pin (34) when the rotating plug (4) is rotated, and that define
4 the preferred stop positions for the rotating plug.
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REMARKS

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34110.

Respectfully submitted,

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

By 
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December 6, 2001

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